GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:429
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2001
DISABLED PERSONS
SRINIVASULU KALAVA;SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no reliable and scientific data available with the Government about the number of disabled persons for the past two decades;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government have failed to ascertain the number of disabled persons by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO);

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey to ascertain the number of disabled persons in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) to (e) Though attempts at collecting information about number of persons with disabilities have been made from time to time beginning with 1959, as per sample survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1991 approximately 5% of the population is estimated to be suffering from some kind of disability. This figure includes 3% mentally disabled persons. Data regarding persons with disabilities has been collected through Census of India 2001 also.